<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>:

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for the insertion of information to synchronize a destination node with a data stream transmitted from an entry terminal in a heterogeneous network, the heterogeneous network including at least one sub-network conveying ~~first~~ packets <u>of a first type</u> and one basic network conveying ~~second~~ packets <u>of a second type</u>, the entry terminal being connected to the sub-network, the sub-network being connected to the basic network by means of an entry node forming the ~~second~~ packets <u>of the second type</u> from at least one sub-part of at least one ~~first~~ packet <u>of the first type, wherein the size of the useful information of packets of the second type is independent of the size of packets of the first type</u>,

wherein, at the occurrence of at least one ~~pre-determined~~ <u>predetermined</u> event, the entry node:

forms a ~~second~~ synchronization packet <u>of the second type</u> such that the beginning of useful information of the ~~second~~ synchronization packet corresponds to the beginning of the ~~first~~ packet <u>of the first type</u>;

inserts a synchronization marker in the ~~second~~ synchronization packet; and

modifies the size of a ~~second~~ packet <u>of the second type</u> preceding the ~~second~~ synchronization packet <u>such that the end of the useful information of said packet of the second type corresponds to the end of a packet of the first type</u>.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined event is reached at a predetermined instant from among a plurality of predetermined instants.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein the plurality of predetermined instants succeed one another in a cycle with a fixed period.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined event is the reception, by the entry node, of a synchronization request.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 4, wherein a synchronization request is sent out by a node belonging to a group comprising:

a first destination node, to which there is connected a first destination terminal that has formulated a first request for connection with the entry terminal, to receive said data stream; and

a second destination node, to which there is connected a second destination terminal that has formulated a second request for connection with the entry terminal, to receive said data stream, after a connection has already been set up between the first destination terminal and the entry terminal for said data stream.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the entry node modifies the size of the ~~second~~ synchronization packet <u>of the second type</u>[[,]] in such a way that the sum of the modified size of the preceding ~~second~~ packet <u>of the second type</u>

and the modified size of the ~~second~~ synchronization packet <u>of the second type</u> is

substantially equal to a normal size of a ~~second~~ packet <u>of the second type</u>.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the entry

node manages a mechanism for obtaining, after each occurrence of a predetermined event,

a current distance, in memory, between a memorized position of a forthcoming start of a

~~first~~ packet <u>of the first type</u> and a current position of a read pointer used for the building of

the ~~second~~ packets <u>of the second type</u>.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7, wherein the entry

node performs the following steps:

the entry node obtains said current distance;

if the current distance is equal to zero, the entry node generates and sends a

~~second~~ synchronization packet <u>of the second type</u> for which the start of payload data

corresponds to the start of a ~~first~~ packet <u>of the first type</u>, this ~~second~~ synchronization

packet comprising a synchronization marker;

if the current distance is smaller than the normal size of the ~~second~~ packet

<u>of the second type</u>, the entry node generates and sends a truncated ~~second~~ packet <u>of the</u>

<u>second type</u>, called a preceding ~~second~~ packet <u>of the second type</u>, whose reduced size is

equal to the current distance, then generates and sends a ~~second~~ synchronization packet <u>of</u>

<u>the second type</u> for which the start of the payload data corresponds to the start of the ~~first~~

packet <u>of the first type</u>, this ~~second~~ synchronization packet comprising a synchronization

marker; and

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if the current distance is greater than or equal to the normal size of the ~~second~~ packet of the second type, the entry node sends a ~~second~~ normal-sized packet of the second type that is not a ~~second~~ synchronization packet of the second type.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for the processing of information for the synchronizing of a destination node with a data stream transmitted from an entry terminal in a heterogeneous network, the heterogeneous network including at least one sub-network conveying ~~first~~ packets of a first type and a basic network conveying ~~second~~ packets of a second type, the sub-network being connected to the basic network by means of a destination node,

wherein the size of useful information of packets of the second type is independent of the size of packets of the first type,

wherein the destination node:

detects a ~~second~~ synchronization packet of the second type among the ~~second~~ packets of the second type conveyed by the basic network by means of a synchronization marker contained in the ~~second~~ synchronization packet of the second type;

forms a ~~first~~ synchronization packet of the first type from at least one ~~second~~ synchronization packet of the second type, such that the beginning of the ~~first~~ synchronization packet of the first type corresponds to the beginning of useful information of the ~~second~~ synchronization packet of the second type; and

transfers the ~~first~~ synchronization packet of the first type to the sub-network.

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 9 wherein, following the transfer of the ~~first~~ synchronization packet of the first type, the destination node:

forms ~~first~~ packets of the first type out of ~~second~~ packets of the second type associated with the data stream; and

transfers the ~~first~~ packets of the first type formed on the sub-network.

11. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 9 wherein so long as it has not detected a ~~second~~ synchronization packet of the second type, the destination node swallows the ~~second~~ received packets of the second type, without forming ~~first~~ packets of the first type.

12. (Currently Amended) A node in a heterogeneous network, the heterogeneous network including at least one sub-network conveying ~~first~~ packets of a first type and a basic network conveying ~~second~~ packets of a second type, wherein the size of useful information of packets of the second type is independent of the size of packets of the first type, and wherein the node ~~comprising~~ comprises:

forming means for forming a ~~second~~ synchronization packet of the second type such that the start of payload data of the ~~second~~ synchronization packet of the second type corresponds to the start of a ~~first~~ packet of the first type;

inserting means for inserting a synchronization marker in the ~~second~~ synchronization packet of the second type; and

modification means for modifying the size of a ~~second~~ packet <u>of the second type</u> preceding the ~~second~~ synchronization packet <u>of the second type, such that the end of the useful information of said packet of the second type corresponds to the end of a packet of the first type</u>.

13. (Currently Amended) A node according to claim 12, wherein said forming means forms the ~~second~~ synchronization packet <u>of the second type</u> at the occurrence of a predetermined event, said predetermined event being reached at a predetermined instant from among a plurality of predetermined instants.

14. (Original) A node according to claim 13, wherein the plurality of predetermined instants succeed one another in a cycle with a fixed period.

15. (Currently Amended) A node according to claim 12, wherein said forming means forms the ~~second~~ synchronization packet <u>of the second type</u> at the occurrence of a predetermined event, said predetermined event being reception, by the node, of a synchronization request.

16. (Previously Presented) A node according to claim 15, wherein the synchronization request is sent out by a node belonging to a group comprising:

a first destination node, to which there is connected a first destination terminal that has formulated a first request for connection with an entry terminal, to receive said data stream; and

a second destination node, to which there is connected a second destination terminal that has formulated a second request for connection with the entry terminal, to receive said data stream, after a connection has already been set up between the first destination terminal and the entry terminal for said data stream.

17. (Currently Amended) A node according to claim 12, wherein said modification means modifies the size of the ~~second~~ synchronization packet of the second type[[,]] in such a way that the sum of the modified size of the preceding ~~second~~ packet of the second type and the modified size of the ~~second~~ synchronization packet of the second type is substantially equal to a normal size of a ~~second~~ packet of the second type.

18. (Currently Amended) A node according to claim 12, further comprising means for obtaining a current distance in memory between a memorized position of a forthcoming start of a ~~first~~ packet of the first type and a current position of a read pointer used for the building of the ~~second~~ packets of the second type.

19. (Currently Amended) A node according to claim 18, further comprising means for selective activation as a function of the value of the current distance obtained, such that:

if the current distance is equal to zero, the activation means activates means for generating and sending a ~~second~~ synchronization packet of the second type for which the start of the payload data corresponds to the start of a ~~first~~ packet of the first type, this ~~second~~ synchronization packet of the second type comprising a synchronization marker;

if the current distance is smaller than the normal size of a ~~second~~ packet <u>of</u> <u>the second type</u>, the activation means activates means for generating and sending a ~~second~~ truncated packet <u>of the second type</u>, called a preceding ~~second~~ packet <u>of the second type</u>, whose reduced size is equal to the current distance, then <u>activates</u> means for generating and sending a ~~second~~ synchronization packet <u>of the second type</u> for which the start corresponds to the start of a ~~first~~ packet <u>of the first type</u>, this ~~second~~ synchronization packet <u>of the second type</u> comprising a synchronization marker; and

if the current distance is greater than or equal to the normal size of a ~~second~~ packet <u>of the second type</u>, the activation means activates means for sending a ~~second~~ normal-sized packet <u>of the second type</u> that is not a ~~second~~ synchronization packet <u>of the</u> <u>second type</u>.

20. (Currently Amended) A node in a heterogeneous network, the heterogeneous network including at least one sub-network conveying ~~first~~ packets <u>of a first</u> <u>type</u> and one basic network conveying ~~second~~ packets <u>of a second type, wherein the size of</u> <u>useful information of packets of the second type is independent of the size of packets of</u> <u>the first type,</u> <u>and wherein</u> the node ~~comprising~~ <u>comprises</u>:

detecting means for detecting a ~~second~~ synchronization packet <u>of the</u> <u>second type</u> among the ~~second~~ packets <u>of the second type</u> conveyed by the basic network by a synchronization marker contained in the ~~second~~ synchronization packet <u>of the second</u> <u>type</u>;

forming means for forming a ~~first~~ synchronization packet <u>of the first type</u> from at least one ~~second~~ synchronization packet <u>of the second type</u>, such that the

beginning of the ~~first~~ synchronization packet <u>of the first type</u> corresponds to the beginning

of useful information of the ~~second~~ synchronization packet <u>of the second type</u>; and

     <u>a</u> transmitter for transmitting the ~~first~~ synchronization packet <u>of the first</u>

<u>type</u> to the sub-network.

     21. (Currently Amended) A node according to claim 20, wherein said

forming means forms ~~first~~ packets <u>of the first type</u> out of ~~second~~ packets <u>of the second type</u>

associated with the data stream following the transmission of the ~~first~~ synchronization

packet <u>of the first type</u>, and wherein said transmitter transmits the ~~first~~ packets <u>of the first</u>

<u>type</u> formed on the sub-network.

     22. (Currently Amended) A node according to claim 20, further

comprising means for swallowing the ~~second~~ received packets <u>of the second type</u>, without

forming ~~first~~ packets <u>of the first type</u> so long as it has not detected a ~~second~~

synchronization packet <u>of the second type</u>.